



NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE

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# KENTUCKY WEEKLY CROP & WEATHER REPORT



In Cooperation with:  
Univ. of Ky - Agr'l Weather Center  
U.S. Dept. of Commerce - NOAA  
Kentucky Department of Agriculture  
Cooperative Extension Service

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**AGRICULTURAL NEWS:** Planting and crop development continued to be hampered by cloudy, cool, weather. Rainfall was below normal across the State, however sprinkles, light showers, and isolated thunderstorms prevented some fieldwork. Temperatures were below normal during the week, averaging 59 degrees across the State, 8 degrees below normal. Precipitation for the week totaled 0.62 inches statewide, which was 0.44 inches below normal. **Topsoil moisture** as of Friday, May 19 was rated 3 percent short, 68 percent adequate and 29 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 1 percent very short, 8 percent short, 69 percent adequate, and 22 percent surplus. Days suitable for fieldwork averaged 2.6 out of a possible 7 days.

**TOBACCO:** Twenty-three percent of the burley tobacco has been set, slightly behind last year and the five year average. Fifteen percent of the dark tobacco was set, 17 percent behind last year, and progress also lagged the five year average of 28 percent. As of Friday, May 19, set tobacco was rated 2 percent poor, 38 percent fair, 57 percent good, and 3 percent excellent. Some farmers report cold injury to their tobacco plants, and needed the ground to dry in order to continue setting.

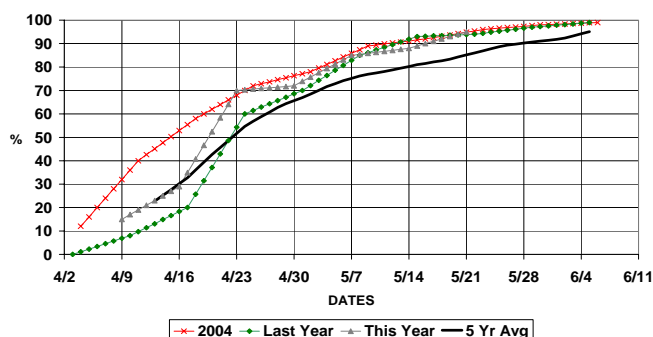
**ROW CROPS:** Corn producers have seeded 95 percent of their acres, as of Sunday, May 21,

compared to 94 percent last year, and 85 percent for the five year average. Crop emergence was reported at 81 percent, behind last year's 83 percent and above the five year average of 76 percent. The average emerged corn height was 9 inches, with the most advanced height at 15 inches. Corn condition was rated 4 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 54 percent good, and 15 percent excellent. Soybeans were 26 percent planted, behind last years 62 percent and below the five year average of 34 percent. Farmers report some soybeans are in need of replanting.

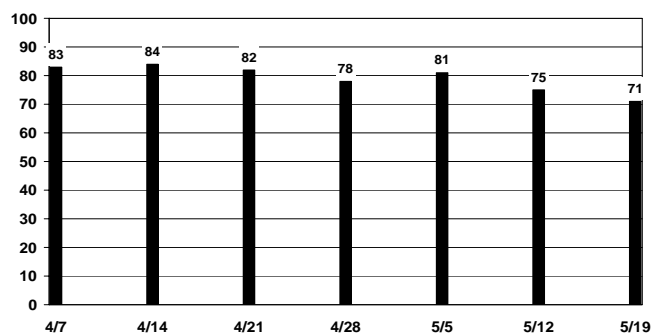
**SMALL GRAINS:** As of Friday, May 19 winter wheat condition was rated 3 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 53 percent good, and 18 percent excellent. Farmers report very little lodging in the small grains. Very little disease or insect problems have been reported in the small grains in spite of the cool, damp conditions. The winter wheat harvest is expected to begin June 14, and barley on June 7.

**OTHER CROPS & PASTURE:** Pasture condition was rated 1 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 21 percent fair, 57 percent good, and 18 percent excellent. Hay crops were rated 1 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. As of Sunday, May 21, 40 percent of sorghum acreage had been planted compared to 39 percent last year at this time.

CORN PLANTING PROGRESS



Winter Wheat Condition  
% Good to Excellent



## KENTUCKY CROP PROGRESS

WEEK ENDING MAY 21, 2006  
WITH COMPARISONS

Crop Stage	This Week	Previous Year	5-Yr. Avg.	Previous Week KY	U.S.
Percentage					
Corn					
Planted	95	94	85	88	85
Emerged	81	83	76	76	44
Soybeans					
Planted	26	62	34	18	33
Emerged	12	26	20	1	9
Sorghum Planted	40	39	29	22	34
Burley Tobacco Set	23	24	26	12	NA
Dark Tobacco Set	15	32	28	6	NA

(NA)Data Not Available.

## SOIL MOISTURE

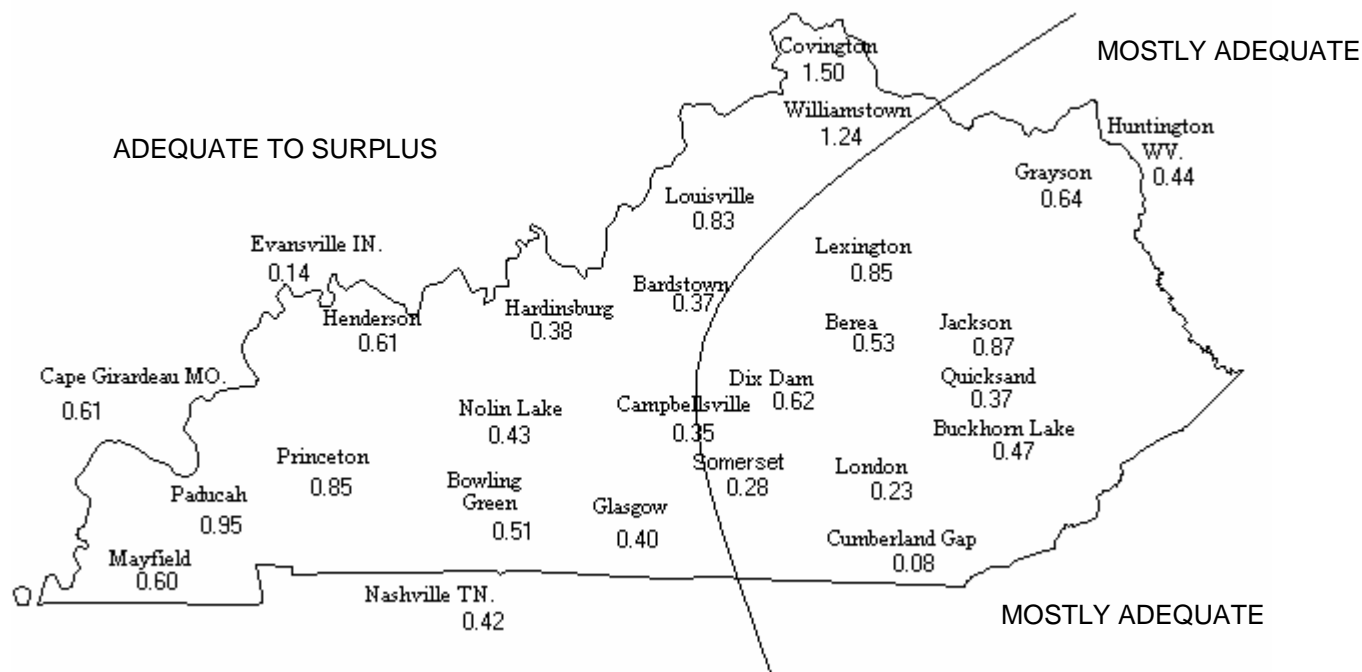
WEEK ENDING MAY 19, 2006  
WITH COMPARISONS

	This Week	Previous Week
Percentage		
<b>TOPSOIL</b>		
Very Short	0	0
Short	3	5
Adequate	68	64
Surplus	29	31
<b>SUBSOIL</b>		
Very Short	1	2
Short	8	11
Adequate	69	70
Surplus	22	17

## KENTUCKY CROP CONDITIONS (Percent)

WEEK ENDING MAY 19, 2006						WEEK ENDING MAY 12, 2006				
CROP	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCEL-LENT	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCEL-LENT
Corn Emerged	0	4	27	54	15	1	4	21	50	24
Wheat	0	3	26	53	18	2	3	20	52	23
Pasture	1	3	21	57	18	0	3	22	55	20
Hay Crop	1	5	31	50	13	1	5	28	49	17
Tobacco Set	0	2	38	57	3	0	1	23	65	11

## PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 21, 7:00 P.M. TOPSOIL MOISTURE DELINEATION FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2006



## **KENTUCKY WEATHER SUMMARY, MAY 15 – 21, 2006:**

### **Below Normal Temperatures and Below Normal Rainfall:**

The pesky, large low pressure system that stalled over northern Ohio Valley from the previous week continued to provide Kentucky with cloudy, very cool weather and, what folklorists call "Blackberry Winter," which is a return of cool temperatures when blackberry blooms are occurring in spring. Since the first of the month, Kentucky's cool temperatures were on track as the 2nd coolest May in the past 111 years, with only 1917's May temperatures cooler, so far. Yet, no frost occurred last week. The difference this week was below normal rainfall for the Commonwealth, except for east-central and south-central sections of the State. Mostly sprinkles, light showers and isolated thunderstorms threaten many locations on 4 to 6 days. Storms went severe at midweek, causing damage and at least one death in the State.

Temperatures for the period averaged 59 degrees across the State which was 8 degrees below normal. High temperatures averaged from 72 in the West to 69 in the East. Departure from normal high temperatures ranged from 10 degrees below normal in the West to 8 degrees below normal in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 50 degrees in the West to 48 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperature ranged from 7 degrees below normal in the West to 8 degrees below normal in the East. Extreme high temperatures were near 80 and extreme low temperatures were in the low 40's

Precipitation (liq. equ.) for the period totaled 0.62 inches statewide which was 0.44 inches below normal. Precipitation totals by climate division, West 0.63 inches, Central 0.49 inches, Bluegrass 0.94 inches and East 0.42 inches, which was 0.48, 0.62, 0.08 and 0.59 inches respectively below normal. By station, precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.08 inches at Cumberland Gap to a high of 1.50 inches at Covington.

Tom Priddy

### **KENTUCKY TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 21, 7:00 P.M.**

Weather Station	Rainfall			Deviation From		Air Temperature				Growing Degree Days		
	Last Week	Since April 1	Last Four Wks	Norm Since Apr. 1	Norm Last 4 Wks	High	Low	Wkly. Avg.	Dev. From Norm	Last Week	Since Apr. 1	Dev. Since Apr. 1
	(Inches)					(Degrees Fahrenheit)						
Bardstown	0.37	5.69	2.68	-1.22	-1.25	79	41	57.2	-10	61	568	-47
Berea	0.53	6.37	3.03	-1.15	-1.22	79	45	58.4	-8	64	634	-2
Bowling Green	0.51	7.13	3.69	-0.54	-0.66	78	45	60.8	-6	80	665	+29
Bristol	0.39	7.58	2.74	+1.64	-0.67	79	38	56.6	-9	61	563	-1
Buckhorn Lake	0.47	5.48	1.39	-1.05	-2.27	77	44	58.7	-7	67	602	+38
Cape Girardeau	0.61	8.21	7.30	+0.26	+2.75	83	47	63.1	-6	94	681	+24
Campbellsville	0.35	6.09	2.89	-2.17	-1.73	80	41	58.3	-9	70	626	-10
Covington	1.50	8.17	3.32	+1.52	-0.45	70	43	56.1	-10	54	498	-36
Cumberland Gap	0.08	7.69	0.69	+0.35	-3.52	77	44	58.7	-7	67	567	+3
Dix Dam	0.62	7.36	3.08	-0.07	-1.12	78	45	57.5	-9	62	574	-41
Evansville	0.14	5.81	3.04	-1.43	-1.12	80	44	59.6	-10	73	617	+11
Glasgow	0.40	7.01	3.24	-0.97	-1.25	80	40	59.9	-7	79	694	+118
Grayson	0.64	5.71	2.10	-0.81	-1.63	76	44	58.2	-8	65	589	+76
Hardinsburg	0.38	4.77	3.33	-2.84	-0.97	78	42	58.6	-8	67	587	-49
Henderson	0.61	7.83	5.05	+0.49	+0.97	76	46	60.1	-9	76	613	-23
Huntington	0.44	5.06	1.58	-1.43	-2.15	76	43	58.5	-8	67	614	+50
Jackson	0.87	6.47	2.71	-0.66	-1.28	78	42	57.9	-8	65	633	+69
Lexington	0.85	6.65	3.46	-0.26	-0.47	77	43	57.1	-9	59	532	-2
London	0.23	7.16	2.44	+0.35	-1.36	80	39	57.5	-9	66	583	+19
Louisville	0.83	8.39	3.11	+1.03	-1.01	79	44	57.4	-10	61	550	-56
Mayfield	0.60	5.50	3.23	-2.94	-1.34	77	44	58.7	-10	67	567	-120
Nashville	0.42	6.86	3.51	-0.82	-0.82	80	46	62.6	-5	90	753	+66
Nolin Lake	0.43	6.29	3.22	-1.95	-1.55	79	42	59.9	-7	73	621	+6
Paducah	0.95	7.75	5.87	-0.61	+1.35	83	48	63.6	-6	94	719	+62
Princeton	0.85	5.53	3.50	-2.63	-0.98	77	46	61.1	-8	83	697	+31
Quicksand	0.37	4.22	1.61	-2.91	-2.38	77	44	58.7	-7	67	565	+1
Somerset	0.28	5.66	1.88	-2.12	-2.57	80	39	56.9	-9	64	581	-34
Spindletop	0.90	5.31	2.83	-1.60	-1.10	76	44	56.6	-9	57	517	-17
Williamstown	1.24	7.72	3.40	+0.58	-0.56	72	44	56.4	-10	56	511	-23

The above information is provided by Tom Priddy, Kentucky Extension Agricultural Meteorologist, University of Kentucky Agr'l Weather Center (859)257-3000 ext 245. E-mail: priddy@uky.edu Additional Ky weather data available on Internet at: <http://www.agwx.ca.uky.edu/>

## A GUIDE TO GROWING DEGREE DAYS

For the 2006 growing season, the Kentucky Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service in cooperation with the National Weather Service will provide weekly accumulated growing degree days (GGD) data.

These GDD are calculated according to the definition:

$$\text{GDD} = \frac{\text{Daily Max } (\leq 86^{\circ}\text{F}) + \text{Daily Min } (\geq 50^{\circ}\text{F})}{2} - 50^{\circ}\text{F}$$

Maximum temperatures above 86° F are entered as 86° and minima below 50° are entered as 50°. This modification is designed to take into account the differing response of plants to quite high or quite low temperatures. There are several methods of calculating GDD, but the above formula is most widely accepted. This adjusted 50°F method of calculating GDD has been adopted by the Hybrid Seed Corn Industry as a basis for a uniform maturity rating system.

At 50°F corn grows hardly at all. As the temperature rises up to the range of 80° to 86°F, corn grows faster if moisture is adequate. When the temperature rises above 86°F the roots have increasing difficulty taking in water fast enough to keep plant cells turgid (full of water) and working at top speed. When soil moisture is short, the optimum temperature is less than 80°F. With perfect moisture supply the optimum temperature is likely 90° to 95°F.

The concept of growing degree days is still under study and refinement. In its short existence growing degree days has proven to be a much better gauge for rating corn maturity than the old "days of maturity" rating. The use and importance of GDD will improve as information is collected over the years.

### Corn Percent Planted

State	May 14 2006	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	64	37	56	64
IL	95	85	97	84
IN	74	52	87	70
IA	92	81	95	84
KS	89	81	90	89
<b>KY</b>	88	85	92	80
MI	79	62	80	59
MN	76	56	87	78
MO	96	93	94	86
NE	89	67	87	80
NC	99	97	95	95
ND	57	31	68	59
OH	90	78	87	72
PA	75	58	70	61
SD	65	35	71	61
TN	93	92	96	95
TX	96	91	91	94
WI	75	52	74	56
ALL	85	70	88	77
These 18 States planted 93% of last year's corn acreage.				

### Soybean Percent Planted

State	May 14 2006	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	40	38	56	42
IL	31	14	66	43
IN	32	15	54	44
IA	41	17	42	35
KS	12	7	33	28
<b>KY</b>	18	12	39	23
LA	67	62	57	53
MI	54	25	53	32
MN	21	6	26	33
MS	93	91	89	82
MO	26	15	40	26
NE	32	9	33	28
NC	18	13	22	18
ND	19	8	18	18
OH	68	45	58	47
SD	13	3	12	15
TN	18	13	28	19
WI	26	10	38	22
ALL	33	18	43	35
These 18 States planted 95% of last year's soybean acreage.				

This release and others can be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ky/> For a free E-Mail subscription of the Kentucky Weekly Crop & Weather report, on the Internet go to <http://www.nass.usda.gov/sub-form.htm> and follow the instructions.